GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2892
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Release Certificates of Bonded Labourers
Pal Shri Jagdambika

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the details of conviction are included in/form part of release certificates under the Central Sector scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded labourers;
(b)if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c)the timeline for the final disbursement of cash assistance to be granted to the rescued bonded labourers;
(d)whether a release certificate will be issued immediately post a rescue order for rescued bonded labourers to avail non-cash benefits; and
(e)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): The details of conviction as mentioned in the format for release certificate prescribed under the 'Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer, 2016 are namely date of conviction, quantum of punishment under Chapter VI, amount of debt extinguished under Section 6 and extent & nature of property freed under Section 7 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976.
(c): Release of rehabilitation assistance under the Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer, 2016', has been linked with conviction of the accused. However, in cases where the summary trial under Section 21 of the Act has not been concluded as per rules but the DM/SDM has arrived at a prima facie finding and proof of bondage, then the proposal for cash assistance shall not be stopped for want of details of conviction. Final disbursement of cash assistance and non-cash assistance shall be made upon proof of bondage and other legal consequences as per judicial process.
Contd..2/-

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. In cases where immediate assistance is necessary for care and protection of the rescued persons during pendency of trial, such assistance including fooding, lodging, medical assistance, legal aid, provisions for victim's or witness' protection etc. shall be provided under any other law or scheme forthwith, notwithstanding the entitlements prescribed under the scheme.

District administration, if concludes that the alleged bonded labour, in fact, is not in a condition of bondage but requires socio-economic assistance, may provide state assistance under any other scheme administered by them.

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